

File: H_E_Hall_1858_09_07.doc
Typed by IB 1988
OCR by Ian Bracher March 2010
Checked against MS by IB 12 March 2010

Henry Edward Hall to Sarah Bracher, 7 September 1858

Wongung

Sepr 7th 1858

My dear Sarah

I have received letters from Henry & Shakespeare this week of July & Augst. Henry informs me he intends to leave for this place in a short time inform him if you see him that I have rec^d his letter and should have written to him but thought he would have left before the letter would have arrived I have addressed a letter to Shakespeare to your care and I wish you to keep it till you have an opportunity of sending it that he will be certain of having it I wrote to Mr Bracher last month and since then I have asked several persons about the House and Grant & they all consider it of very little value the situation is so very bad Mr Shentons opinion is that it had better remain as it as it¹ would not pay the encumbrances if it was sold and as long as it remains it keeps the parties quiet. We are all well by the blessing of God at least your Brothers as for myself I do not expect ever to be better as I have so great a difficulty in swallowing any food that I cannot take sufficient to keep my strength up I chiefly subsist on Tea and Toast a very small quantity three times a day but I am truly thankful and contented as I am our Crops are looking well and the Cattle considering the season doing well better than our Neighbours Frank is at the Blackwood where we have more than a Hundred head yet he is trying to get them in but I am afraid he will not succeed till the Country is in a better state for riding over Fanny are there² and as soon as they can be got in they shall be sold and the money remitted We have two contracts one with Yelverton at Vasse and the other with Birch at Perth who is now the principal Butcher this keeps Frank constantly out and Andⁿ is in close attention to a lass he has made a bet at Perth that he will be married in six months so that you will soon have a Sister in law but not Mrs Mews's daughter whom I am informed [h]as written to you on the subject it appears to have been a fancy of the young lady's without any knowledge or consent of Andⁿ but it has made much gossip in Perth but it appears

¹ The phrase should possibly read '...as it is, as it would...'

² The phrase should possibly read '...Fanny's cattle are there...'. There are other references in the Hall letters to cattle which were held in Fanny's name.

her affections were placed in another quarter long ago he is out every evening so that I see very little of him frequently all night. From this you may suppose that I am in a very solitary situation we have three Men in the kitchen but no female the cook is good for the kitchen but he cannot do any thing for me as he knows nothing of cooking and any thing I have I am obliged to do it myself and as my stomach is so weak the preparing takes away all desire for it so I seldom attempt it. The last seven months appear like a dreary life time it is astonishing how heavy the time passes no one to speak to but I am truly thankful to the Almighty for the degree of health I enjoy and the comforts I have I shall feel a relief when Henry comes and puts an end to the present state of affairs — I intend going to the Murray give my love to Fanny and the dear Children and Mr Bracher God bless you all yours ever

H E Hall

I had almost forgot to tell my dear Fanny that the Cat that she used to lug about and call out 'Fats' and then fall down with the weight went into the Bush and was away more than two years he returned the evening your dear Mama was buried he staid about two Months very contented and then left we have seen nothing of him since that time till as I sat down to write this letter he walked it as fat he can be and has continued rubbing himself against my legs and purring the whole time I have been writing

God bless you my dear Girl

H